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THE RURAL-URBAN FRINGE

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PREFACE

This bibliography centers on a phenomena common to most urban places; a lack of contrast between rural and urban landscapes which is measurable in terms of social organization and/or land use. In its place, one encounters a rural-urban fringe in which the various attributes of the rural and urban sector are mixed together.

Until recently, differentiation of the fringe could be accomplished by employing social criteria. Within the rural-urban fringe both life styles exist and recognition of the distinctive occupations and values of each supplied a basis for separation. The influence of modern communications, however, functions to complicate this methodology.

Efforts to employ land use in rural-urban analysis are equally difficult. The observations and interpretations of the trained and untrained investigator are often distorted by a false sense of rurality and/or an erroneous assessment of urban magnetism.

Studies selected for the bibliography represent the contributions of many disciplines; planning, geography, sociology, and economics. Hopefully, the presence of a common focus, the rural-urban fringe, and a diversity of approaches will permit a clear statement of the theories and problems involved.

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